

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00055 131118Z

15

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 (ISO) W

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O 131032Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4893

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 55

EXDIS

SECTO 19

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO DAMASCUS

BEIRUT PASS USINT DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

1. YOU SHOULD INFORM SARG THAT, WHILE LAST-MINUTE CHANGES CANNOT BE RULED OUT, THE WAY SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE IS NOW SHAPING UP, HE WILL BE ABLE VISIT DAMASCUS FROM MID-MORNING TO SOMETIME IN AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16. SUBJECT TO SARG APPROVAL, WE WOULD PROPOSE MAKE FOLLOWING BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT TUESDAY NOON, JANUARY 15:

BEGIN TEXT: IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER MIDDLE EAST STOPS, SECRETARY KISSINGER WILL VISIT DAMASCUS PRIOR TO LEAVING THE AREA FOR A FURTHER TALK WITH PRESIDENT ASSAD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16. END TEXT.

2. IF QUERIED RE INITIATIVE FOR AND PURPOSE OF TRIP, WE WILL SAY THAT VISIT IS TAKING PLACE BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT. SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT ASSAD AGREED WHEN THEY MET ON DECEMBER 15 THAT THEY WOULD MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER, AND THEY ARE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF SECRETARY'S PRESENCE IN THE AREA TO CONTINUE THEIR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST DISCUSSED ON THAT

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OCCASION.

3. PLEASE CONFIRM BY NIACT IMMEDIATE CABLE THAT FORE-
GOING IS SATISFACTORY TO SARG.

4. SECRETARY WOULD LIKE TO VISIT OMMAYID MOSQUE DURING
TIME IN DAMASCUS.
KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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